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Great Salt Lake Comprehensive Management Plan

Salt Lake City, Utah -- The Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands (FFSL) has released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals from experienced environmental planning consultants to review and update the governing documents for the Great Salt Lake. The bidding process is expected to take approximately four weeks with the successful bidder beginning work early next year.

The 2000 Great Salt Lake Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) and the 1996 Great Salt Lake Mineral Leasing Plan are both slated for review and both documents have played an integral part in deciding the activities and research that currently occur on the lake. The purpose of the review and update is to identify issues and concerns relative to the sovereign lands and resources at Great Salt Lake and to apply new information that has accumulated over the last ten years.

In preparation for this project, FFSL signed a decision document on August 13, 2009 placing a withdrawal of all sovereign lands within the bed of Great Salt Lake from leasing and permitting until the completion of the review and/or revision of the Comprehensive Management Plan. The withdrawal means that the Division will accept no new applications for surface or mineral uses on the Great Salt Lake.

"The Division is excited for the opportunity to once again work with other local, state and federal agencies to revisit the subject of management on the Great Salt Lake," said FFSL Director, Dick Buehler.

"We are also anticipating input and comments from the public since we manage this resource under the public trust."

The RFP is available on the Utah State Purchasing website at <http://www.bidsync.com/DPX?ac=view&auc=408972>

The Great Salt Lake is located within Box Elder, Weber, Davis, Salt Lake and Tooele counties. The lake is a terminal basin and home to hundreds of thousand of waterfowl in adjacent wetlands. It is the largest contiguous area managed by the state of Utah, approximately 1.35 million acres. Sovereign lands here are part of a hyper saline lake rich in mineral resources.

A copy of the 2000 Great Salt Lake Comprehensive Management Plan and Decision Document along with the 1996 Great Salt Lake Mineral Leasing Plan can be found on the Division's website at:

<http://www.ffsl.utah.gov/sovlands/gsl.php>

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